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T. H. C. B. H. Brown
2/25/03

A363 0019
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s): MACKIEWICH, Blair T. et al.
Title: **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ROUTING DATA FRAMES**
Serial No.: 10/026,735
Filed: 27 December 2001
Art Unit: 2151

To: Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Box Missing Parts
Washington, D. C. 20231

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DEC 12 2002
Technology Center 2100

VOLUNTARY AMENDMENT

Preliminary to the examination of this application, please amend this application as follows:

In the Specification

Replace the second full paragraph on page 5 with the following:

In drawings which illustrate non-limiting
embodiments of the invention,

Figure 1 is a block diagram of a bridge according to the
invention;

Figure 2 is a flow chart which illustrates a method for
forwarding data frames in a bridge having a shared forwarding
database;

Figure 3 is a block diagram showing an application of the
invention; and

Figure 4 is schematic illustration of a example
application of a bridge according to the invention.

In the Drawings

Replace the 7 sheets of drawings originally filed with the 3 sheets of replacement
drawings enclosed herewith.